

Safeguarding and Sexual Exploitation Policy

IFAC is committed to ensuring that its employees and volunteers, partners, operations and programs do no harm to children, young people or vulnerable adults (collectively, “vulnerable people”); that they do not expose them to the risk of discrimination, neglect, harm and abuse; and that any concerns the organization has about the safety of vulnerable people are dealt with and reported to the appropriate authorities; and that an appropriate level of protection is provided to vulnerable employees and volunteers, when ill or at risk of harm or abuse, for example. This purpose of this policy is to therefore provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection.

We recognize that:

- child welfare is of paramount importance;
- this extends to vulnerable adults, 18 years and above, who by reason of disability, age, gender, social and economic status, or illness, the context they are in, may be unable to take care of or to protect him or herself against abuse, harm or exploitation;
- and that IFAC has a role in ensuring a safe physical and emotional environment for vulnerable people in any situation where IFAC employees, volunteers, partners or programs deal with vulnerable people.

IFAC has zero tolerance against abuse and exploitation of vulnerable people. IFAC also expects its employees and volunteers to ensure the safety and wellbeing of any vulnerable people with whom we work, including using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information and manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately. This is stated in the Codes of Conduct for both IFAC employees and IFAC volunteers.

IFAC also has zero tolerance with respect to sexual exploitation and abuse. In addition to any sexual activity with minors, this includes any actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions; any actual or attempted abuse of position of vulnerability, differential power or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another. This includes acts of transactional sex, solicitation of transactional sex, and exploitative relationships.

Any concerns should be reported through IFAC’s Whistleblowing policy.